

INDUCED ABORTION

There were 2,119 induced abortions performed in Montana in 2006. Of these, 1,930 were performed on Montana residents. Induced abortions have been reported to the Department since July 1, 1974, when the Montana Abortion Control Act was implemented. States no longer report induced abortions to the National Center for Health Statistics and few states exchange resident abortion statistics. For these reasons, national abortion rates are estimates based on incomplete reporting and Montana's complete resident abortion statistics are unknown. The statistics provided in this report are for those abortions occurring in Montana, and any references to Montana residents must be viewed as incomplete. **Figure 62** shows the ratio of abortions performed in Montana to live births occurring in Montana since 1976.

Since the reporting of induced abortions began, and continuing on to the early eighties, the ratio of abortions performed in Montana to the number of live-born babies delivered in the state increased rapidly; the ratio was 129.9 in 1975 and rose to a peak of 295.6 in 1983. The trend fell and reached another near-peak (295.2) in 1990. From 1990 to the present, it has generally trended downward, varying unpredictably in some years. The ratio was 169.7 in 2006.

Figure 62

RATIO OF INDUCED ABORTIONS TO LIVE BIRTHS MONTANA OCCURRENCES, 1975-2006

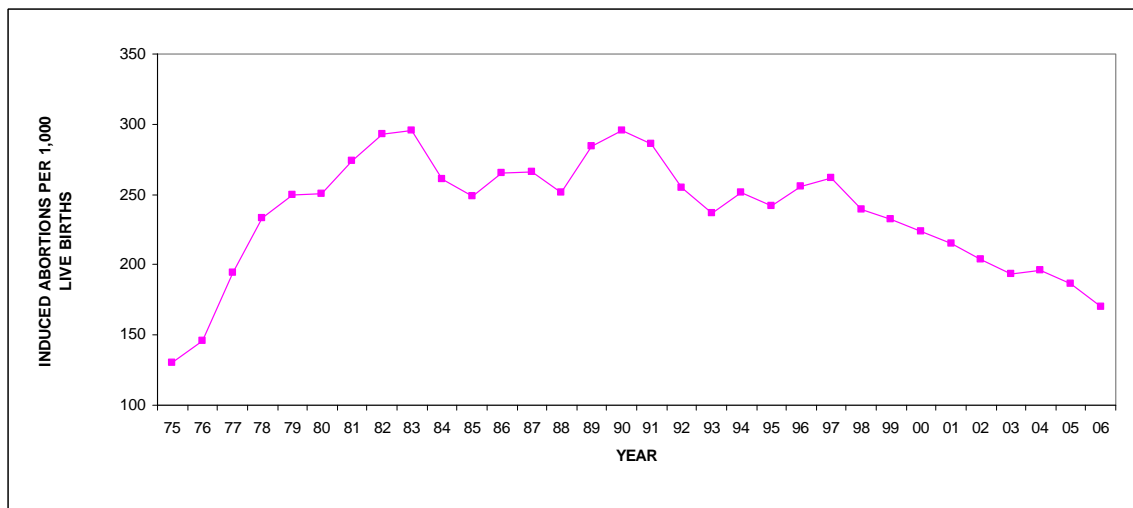


Table A-1 displays Montana occurrence abortions by the patient's number of previous pregnancies and number of previous induced abortions for 2006.

The frequency of induced abortion for all patients receiving the procedure in Montana in that year is also tabulated by age of patient (**Table A-2**) and by gestational age and procedure used for termination and gestational age of the fetus (**Table A-3**).

Table A-4 displays Montana occurrence abortions by county of occurrence, Montana county of residence, and state or country of residence.

Table S-8 shows the frequency of induced abortions--as well as that of live births and fetal deaths, the other pregnancy outcomes reported to the Department—by age and county of residence. The frequency of abortion in this table is for Montana residents receiving the procedure in Montana.

There were no deaths of women receiving abortions in Montana in 2006 attributable to the procedure of induced abortion. This has been the case in Montana since 1974.

Of the 2,155 abortion procedures performed in Montana in 2005, seven resulted in reported complications--four with hemorrhage, one with infection, and two with other complications.